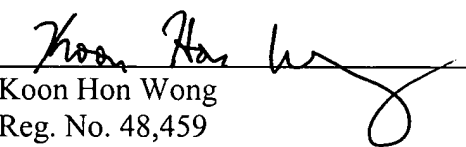


REMARKS

Before examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please enter the present Preliminary Amendment. Claims 1-14 have been cancelled. The remaining claims 15-19 were withdrawn from the parent application (U.S. Application Serial No. 09/877,803). Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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